

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A gel composition that is the combination of or reaction product of ingredients comprising:

5 a thermoplastic elastomer copolymer,
 a nylon-grafted elastomer; and
 an extender.

2. The composition of claim 1, where the ingredients comprise from about 5 to about 80 parts by weight of said nylon-grafted elastomer per 100 parts by weight 10 of said thermoplastic elastomer copolymer, and from about 5 to about 1,000 parts by weight of said extender per 100 parts by weight of said thermoplastic elastomer.

15 3. The composition of claim 1, where the ingredients comprise from about 20 to about 80 parts by weight of said nylon-grafted elastomer per 100 parts by weight of said thermoplastic elastomer copolymer, and from about 10 to about 800 parts by weight of said extender per 100 parts by weight of said thermoplastic elastomer.

20 4. The composition of claim 1, where said thermoplastic elastomer copolymer is a triblock copolymer that includes at least two thermoplastic blocks attached to opposite ends of a rubber block.

25 5. The composition of claim 1, where said thermoplastic elastomer copolymer is styrene/butadiene rubber, styrene/isoprene rubber, styrene/isoprene/butadiene rubber, styrene-butadiene-styrene block copolymer, hydrogenated styrene-butadiene-styrene block copolymer, hydrogenated styrene-butadiene block copolymer, styrene-isoprene-styrene block copolymer, styrene-isoprene block copolymer, hydrogenated styrene-isoprene block copolymer, hydrogenated 30 styrene-isoprene-styrene block copolymer, styrene-ethylene/butylene-ethylene block copolymer, styrene-ethylene-styrene block copolymer, ethylene-ethylene/butylene block copolymer, ethylene-ethylene/butylene/styrene block

copolymer, styrene-ethylene/butylene-ethylene block copolymer, ethylene-ethylene/butylene-ethylene block copolymer, and mixtures thereof.

6. The composition of claim 5, where said thermoplastic elastomer copolymer is
5 a styrene-ethylene/butylene-styrene copolymer, a styrene-ethylene/propylene-styrene copolymer, or mixture thereof.

7. The composition of claim 1, where said extender is an oil or low molecular weight organic compound.

10

8. The composition of claim 7, where said oil is a naphthenic, aromatic, paraffinic, phthalic, or silicone oil.

15

9. The composition of claim 1, where said nylon-grafted elastomer includes nylon-12.

20

10. The composition of claim 1, where said elastomer to which the nylon is grafted includes polybutadiene, poly(styrene-co-butadiene), polyisoprene, poly(styrene-co-butadiene-co-isoprene), poly(styrene-co-isoprene), copolymers of ethylene and an α -olefin and terpolymers of ethylene, an α -olefin, and diene monomers.

25

11. The composition of claim 10, where said elastomer includes a functional group deriving from unsaturated carboxylic acids or unsaturated anhydrides.

12. The composition of claim 10, where said elastomer is maleated ethylene-propylene rubber.

30

13. The composition of claim 12, where said maleated ethylene-propylene rubber includes form about 0.01 to about 10 % by weight substituents deriving from maleic acid.

14. The composition of claim 1, where said nylon-grafted elastomer is the reaction product of a nylon and a maleated rubber.

5 15. The composition of claim 14, where said nylon-grafted elastomer is the reaction product of nylon-12 and maleated ethylene-propylene rubber.

16. The composition of claim 1, where the gel composition is formed by mixing said thermoplastic elastomer copolymer, said nylon-grafted elastomer, and said extender in the solid state.

10

17. The composition of claim 1, where the ingredients comprise a nylon-12 grafted ethylene-propylene rubber, a styrene-ethylene/propylene-styrene copolymer, and a paraffin oil.

15 18. A gasket formed by melt extruding a composition that is the combination or reaction product of ingredients comprising:

- a thermoplastic elastomer copolymer,
- a nylon-grafted elastomer; and
- an extender.

20 19. A disk drive assembly for computers comprising a gasket formed by melt extruding a composition that is the combination or reaction product of ingredients comprising:

- a thermoplastic elastomer copolymer,
- a nylon-grafted elastomer; and
- an extender.

30